

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5033

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, CASC, GEE, US

SUBJECT: GDR HUMANITARIAN CASES: ROETHER/MICKEL

REF: STATE 000913, PARA 4

1. PROF. HUBERT S. MICKEL (U.S. HUMANITARIAN CASE SPONSOR AFFILIATED WITH HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL) WAS, AS HE WAS WHEN HE VISITED DEPT., UNCERTAIN, UNSPECIFIC, AND, INDEED, TIMID WHEN HE CALLED AT THIS EMBASSY, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FIANCEE, MR. (FNU) ROETHER. HE SAID MS. ROETHER WAS DIVORCED, HAD THREE CHILDREN BY A PREVIOUS HUSBAND, AND WANTED TO TAKE THE CHILDREN TO THE UNITED STATES. HE, AS PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE FATHER, ALSO WISHES TO TAKE THE CHILDREN TO THE UNITED STATES BUT BOTH HE AND MS. ROETHER ARE WILLING TO GIVE "VISITATION RIGHTS" TO THE GDR FATHER "WHO IS A NICE PERSON".

2. OVER THE LAST 10 TO 15 MONTHS, MICKEL HAS VISITED ZWICKAU SEVERAL TIMES IN CONNECTION WITH HIS RESEARCHES INTO THE CAUSE OF DEATH OF ROBERT SCHUMANN. DURING THESE VISITS HE MET AND FELL IN LOVE WITH MS ROETHER AND SHE WITH HIM. MICKEL DID NOT MENTION TEACHING AT A GDR UNIVERSITY IN ORDER TO BE NEAR HIS FIANCEE, BUT HE DID MENTION THAT HE WAS WILLING TO "PAY" THE GDR FOR ULTIMATE RELEASE OF HIS FIANCEE AND CHILDREN BY WORKING FOR A PREVIOUSLY-AGREED PERIOD IN A GDR MEDICAL INSTITUTION. EMBASSY WHO DISCUSSED CASE WITH MICKEL DID NOT
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COMMENT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER ON THIS PROPOSAL EXCEPT TO SAY THAT

USG WOULD PROBABLY CONSIDER SUCH ARRANGEMENTS A MATTER FOR PRIVATE AGREEMENT BY HIM WITH GDR AUTHORITIES, BUT THAT U.S. WOULD WORK FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION IN THESE CASES WITHOUT QUID PRO QUO. MICKEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD.

3. MICKEL AGREED TO WRITE DETAILED LETTER ON HIS CASE TO EMBASSY WITH COPY TO EUR/CE (OR VICE-VERSA) "SOON". HE ADDED THAT MS. ROETHER HAD APPLIED TO GDR AUTHORITIES FOR PERMISSION TO MARRY HIM IN DECEMBER 1974.COOPER

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